(ii) The approach to the elimination of corruption in the public service needs to address prevention, surveillance and deterrent prosecution, and deal ruthlessly with the nexus between ciriminals and unscrupulous elements.

(iii) The Government of India and State Governments should draw up a Charter of Ethics and Civil Service Code for the civil service.

(iv) The State Governments will be requested to devise suitable mechanisms including a high powered Civil Service Board, and amend relevant rules, for transparent decisions on postings, promotions and transfers of officials at all levels.

(v) It is necessary to introduce greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies. This would cover, for example, movement towards a Right to Information Act.

(vi) Accountability should be interpreted in a larger sense in order to ensure public satisfaction and responsive delivery of services. For this purpose, a phased introduction of Citizens' Charter for as many service institutions as possible could be considered.

The recommendations of the Conference have been given wide publicity and are being followed up within the Central Government and with the State Governments for urgent processing. It is proposed to place an Action Plan soon before a Conference of Chief Ministers, after consolidating the views of different citizen group as well as State Governments.

**Payment of Sales Tax**

1857. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the foreign airlines have not been making payment of Sales tax and other State taxes on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to various Oil Companies;

(b) if so, the names of such foreign airlines;

(c) the amount outstanding against each airlines of the oil companies;

(d) whether Air India has also requested for exempting it from paying the sales tax vis-a-vis the foreign airlines;

(e) whether a inter-Ministry meeting has taken place to sort out this issue; and

(f) if so, the outcome of meeting ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The details of the Airlines and the estimated outstanding on account of Sales-tax as on 31.1.97 are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Government has considered the matter for remedial measures.

**Statement**

*Outstanding from Foreign Airlines on Account of Sales Tax*

Rs./LACS

| | As on 31/1/97 (Provisional) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | !OC | BPCL | HPCL | Total |
| Air France | 1031.99 | | | 1031.99 |
| Lufthansa | 2362.33 | | | 2362.33 |
| Kuwait Airways | 165.68 | | | 165.68 |
| Saudia | 361.82 | | | 361.82 |
| EL AL Israel | 452.49 | | | 452.49 |
| Royal Jordan | 290.54 | | | 290.54 |
| Syrian Air | 7.04 | | | 7.04 |
| Thai Airways | 220.23 | | | 220.23 |
| SAS | 101.11 | | | 101.11 |
| United Air | 230.79 | | | 230.79 |
| Aeroflot | 15.27 | | 6.60 | 21.87 |
| KLM | 131.66 | 1054.18 | | 1185.84 |
| British Airways | | 2230.05 | | 2230.05 |
| Swiss Air | | 1485.72 | | 1485.72 |
| Alitalia | | 544.96 | | 544.96 |
| Koren Air | | 661.83 | | 661.83 |
| Uzbekistan Airways | | 92.68 | | 92.68 |
| Air Mauritius | | 102.89 | | 102.89 |
| Kenya Airways | | 100.57 | | 100.57 |
| Delta Airlines | | 48.33 | 528.00 | 576.33 |
| Egypt Air | | 49.43 | | 49.43 |
| All Nippon Airlines | | 40.23 | | 40.23 |
| Air Canada | | 67.84 | | 67.84 |
| Emirates | | 20.89 | | 20.89 |
| Martiin Air | | .62 | | .62 |
| Gulf Air | | 9.47 | | 9.47 |
| Total | 5370.95 | 6509.69 | 534.60 | 12415.24 |